

## Wisdom for living

After starting our series in Proverbs last week, where we saw wisdom's offer, beginning and appeal, this week we look at what wisdom requires.

## Start with prayer and then read Proverbs 3:1-8

In what ways does someone pursue wisdom? (perhaps identify the different aspects, but also the common theme)

What would it look like for us to apply v1, 3, 5, 6a & 7 in a greater way? Do any of these verses prompt you particularly?

What four results does this passage suggest flow from our pursuit of wisdom? (remembering that Proverbs observes the general pattern of life rather than making specific promises)

How have you seen some of these things to be true?

## Read Proverbs 4:20-27

Repeat the same exercise for these verses, perhaps more briefly - observing both what pursuing wisdom looks like, and what results.

What would it look like to apply 21, 24-27?

How does the passage give weight to the instruction in v23a?

What might it look like to guard our hearts? (the heart in Proverbs is more than the centre of our emotions - more like the centre of our whole inner being inc. will, mind etc)

How is this different to what society/advertising/popular culture tells us about how to interact with our hearts?

Note: looking back through where the heart is mentioned in both passages helps us to understand a little of what it looks like to guard our heart.

## Pray in the passage